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son and destroyed himself. The Turkish police instantly arrested the father of the young woman, as the cause, *by implication*, of the man's death ; under the *fifth species of homicide*, he became therefore amenable for this act of suicide. When the cause came before the magistrate, it was urged literally by the accusers, that ‘ *If he, the accused, had not had a daughter, the deceased would not have fallen in love ; consequently he would not have been disappointed ; consequently he would not have swallowed poison ; consequently he would not have died : but he, the accused, had a daughter ; and the deceased had fallen in love ; and had been disappointed ; and had swallowed poison, and had died.*’ Upon all these counts, he was called upon to pay the price of the young man's life ; and this, being fixed at the sum of eighty *piastres*, was accordingly exacted.”

Trait of Spanish character.

IN no civilized country of equal advantages and equal antiquity, have the interests of learning been so feebly supported as in Spain. The Moors of this country in the tenth century were learned for that period, but, as a nation, the Spaniards are at present a full century behind every other nation of Europe in the arts of life, the refinements of society, and enlightened views of civil polity ; and almost a millennium, in the modes of education, and intellectual culture. It may be questioned whether they have taken a step in the right road of learning since the days of the Cid. Two or three meteors have gleamed in their literary hemisphere, but these have only served to give a more dismal aspect to the surrounding gloom. Yet they do not pass themselves by in silence. They speak pompously of their dramatists, who have produced their thousand plays ; of their romance writers, who immortalized the age of chivalry with a volume for each renowned knight ; and of their legend makers, who suffered no good saint to leave the world, without commemorating the prodigies he performed, in tomes of sacred story. Mena, they say, combined the excellencies of Dante and Petrarch ; and Raymond Lully, they tell us, wrote three hundred and nineteen books on metaphysics.

In the sciences, if we except Alphonso the wise, they have done absolutely nothing ; they have not even profited by the

discoveries and improvements of others. Yet so lofty are the notions, which they entertain of their own superiority in this respect, that it was long a prevalent opinion among the Spaniards, that God conversed with Moses on Mount Sinai in the Spanish language, and revealed to them long ago all the many secrets and hidden mysteries of nature, which are yet the objects of the diligent researches and inquiries of the most learned philosophers of the world.

Torrubia published his *Natural History of Spain* in 1754. This was accompanied with an introduction, composed of a great number of encomiums on the mighty powers of the author, and the happy lot of Spain. These were written by some of the most learned men of the country, and are highly characteristick of the national character of the Spaniards. The following is an extract from the encomium of father Hieronimus of Salamanca, and may serve as an example of the whole. "Even if I had an hundred tongues, and if each of them, nay, if every individual part of my body, every joint, every vein, was endowed with the faculty of the most eloquent language, yet how very unfit, how totally unable should I be, to express the delight, which the perusal of this natural history afforded me." In confidence that all Europe pays the most profound attention to him, the reverend father goes on; "Behold Torruba, the crowned lion of Spain, the modern Geryon, a philosopher who has surprised nature in the fact, a wonder of literature, to whom nothing rises superiour, save his own immortal natural history. He is the favoured child of Providence, who bestowed every advantage on him, adding as an enchantment to them all, the inestimable blessing of being born in Spain. Happy favoured Spain! Thou faithful genius of our nation, thou art ever constant, ever enlightened, ever invincible, ever triumphant over ignorance and error!"

The Royal Society.

WHEN we look over some of the earlier transactions of the Royal Society, we are equally astonished at the wretched state of science, and the extreme ignorance and credulity of some of the greatest men of that period. It is no longer a mystery, that those sage and laborious advocates for philo-